

**REMARKS**

Claims 15-20 presently appear in this case. No claims have yet been examined on the merits. The claims have been subjected to a restriction requirement. Prompt action on the merits with respect to all of the claims now present in the case are respectfully urged.

The examiner has required restriction from among the following inventions or groups of inventions, which the examiner does not consider to be so linked as to form a single general inventive concept:

Group I, presently comprising claims 1-7, drawn to a method for determining an inflammatory state, or severity of an inflammatory state in a subject comprising determining the level of expression of A3 adenosine receptor (A3AR) in white blood cells (WBCs) from said subject;

Group II, presently comprising claims 8-14, drawn to a method for determining the effectiveness of an anti-inflammatory therapeutic treatment of a subject comprising administering an A3AR agonist to the subject and determining the expression level of A3AR in WBCs from said subject, as specifically recited in claim 8;

Group III, presently comprising claims 15-20, drawn to a method for selecting a subject suffering from a certain inflammatory disease, as specifically recited in claim 15.

Appln. No. 10/565,238  
Amendment dated June 16, 2008  
Reply to Office action of May 16, 2008

Applicants hereby elect the invention of Group III.  
All of the non-elected claims have now been deleted without  
prejudice toward continuing prosecution thereof in divisional  
applications.

The examiner has noted that claim 18 improperly  
depends on itself. Accordingly, it has been amended so as to  
be dependent from instant claim 17, and grouped with the  
invention of group III.

Accordingly, prompt consideration on the merits of  
all of the claims now present in the case, all of which are  
drawn to the elected invention, are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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